

# St. Paul's Church of England Primary Newsletter

Friday 14th February 2025

From the words of St. Paul... 'Encourage one another and build each other up.'

# Headteacher news

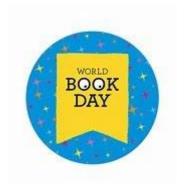
What a wonderful week to end our first half term of 2025. There has been a hive of learning happening across school where children have completed work that they should be extremely proud of. A huge thank you to the PTA and all the parent volunteers and our school staff who gave up their time last night at our spring disco. Without you all dedicating your time, events like this would not be possible.

Please take your time to read through the newsletter as it contains important dates for your diary including some changes to some PE days.

You will shortly be receiving information regarding World Book Day which will take place on **Thursday 6th March.** We have so many exciting events planned such as our annual 'Drop Everything and Read', exciting reading-based activities and some special visitors (shh, it is a surprise!) We are also inviting children to come dressed as a word of their choice as part of our

'Vocabulary Parade!' There will be special prizes for the most inventive and unusual words. Google has lots of ideas.

As we head into the next half term, please can we ensure that full uniform is worn including school shoes and not trainers. PE hoodies should also only be worn for PE lessons or sporting events. Thank you for your continued support and I hope you all have a lovely half term and enjoy making memories with your families. We look forwarding to welcoming you back on **Monday 24th February.** 



# Random Acts of Kindness



























How will you demonstrate random acts of kindness?



The sight of those glorious sunsets brought an enormous smile to my face. They whispered promises of spring just around the corner, of longer days, and of the cheerful blooms of snowdrops and daffodils that will soon grace our school grounds. It's these little glimpses of beauty that can make all the difference in our day-to-day lives.

Inspired by Mrs Arthur's keen eye, I'd like to propose a challenge to our entire school family. Let's chase away the winter blues and embrace the changing seasons with our very own photography competition! The theme? 'Our beautiful world around us'. This is an opportunity for all of us - pupils, parents, family members, and staff alike - to get outside, explore our wonderful landscape, and capture those magical springtime moments.

We're putting a fun twist on this competition: it's children versus adults! So, whether you're 7 or 70, grab your camera or phone and start snapping. We want to see the world through your eyes - perhaps it's a budding flower, a scenic view, or a moment of everyday beauty that catches your attention.

To enter, simply email your photograph to school@constablelee.lancs.sch.uk. Don't forget to include the name and age of the photographer, along with a brief note about what inspired your shot. We can't wait to see the world through your lenses and celebrate the beauty that surrounds us every day.

Let's make the most of these lengthening days and the promise of spring.

Who knows? Your photograph might just be the one to brighten someone else's day and remind us all of the wonders waiting just outside our doors.

Happy photographing, everyone!

# Dates for your diary...



- Mid Term Closure Monday 17th February Friday 21st February 2025 (inclusive)
- Re-open Monday 24th February 2025
- Wednesday 26th February Wear blue day raising awareness for the Refugee Crisis Foundation
- World Book Day- Thursday 6th March- more details to follow
- Parents' Evening- Tuesday 18th March and Thursday 20th March 2025
- Easter Service at St Paul's Church- Thursday 3rd April- Infants 9:30am Juniors 10:30am
- Closure after school on Friday 4th April 2025

# Student Voice

Dear Parents and Careers,

On Wednesday 26th February Student Voice and the Rights Respecting team are raising awareness of the Refugee Crisis Foundation by asking the children to wear blue for the day. If possible, please make a small donation on ParentPay to support the charity. We will also be making Blue art to create a display to remind us about refugees and to show them we care.

Refugee Crisis Foundation is our school chosen charity for this year.

Thank you

Student Voice

# **Attendance/Holiday information**

Attendance to school is compulsory, all children must attend every day unless they are ill.

To enable us to safeguard our children, may we request that if your child is absent from school you, please telephone the school on 01706 215893 by 09:00am to inform us. If we have not received a call, a member of our office staff will call you to ensure that your child is at home and is safe.

What to do if my child is ill.

Despite school being cleaned daily using antibacterial solutions with the use of antibacterial soap and hand gels available for all to use freely. It is that time of year where Illness and viruses start to unfold.

- The NHS have a helpful guide should you wish to use this. <u>Is my child too ill for school? -</u> NHS (www.nhs.uk)
- Please can you ensure that your child does not attend school for 48 hours after they have last vomited or had diarrhoea.

We are still encouraging good respiratory hygiene i.e. covering their nose/mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, discarding tissues after use and washing hands with soap and water. It is important to reduce the risk to others.

## Can you authorise my child's absence?

As many of you are aware, we are unable to authorise any absences that are not illness related unless in exceptional circumstances. There is a 'leave of absence' form available from the school office however, we would ask that all holidays are taken within the holiday periods and not in term time, to avoid a fine from Lancashire County Council.



# Holiday list



You should now have received our new holiday dates for the 2025-26 school year. These dates are crucial for planning purposes, and I kindly ask that you keep them in mind when considering any future family holidays or trips.

It's worth reiterating our school's policy on attendance during term time. As you're all aware, we place a high value on consistent attendance and its impact on our pupils' educational progress. With this in mind, I must remind you that leave during term time will not be authorised. This policy is in place to ensure that our pupils receive the full benefit of their education and don't miss out on valuable learning opportunities.

Should unauthorised leave be taken during term time, it's important to note that this will result in a penalty notice. This measure is not one we take lightly, but it's necessary to maintain the high standards of attendance that contribute to our pupils' success.

I understand that planning family time is important, and I hope that by providing these dates well in advance, we can work together to ensure that holidays and family commitments align with the school calendar wherever possible.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about this or any other matter, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Here are the quick links to -

- 2024-25 Holiday list
- 2025-26 holiday list

# Additional information

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD WHO MAY BE BEING NEGLECTED...

If you are a young person, you can contact 2-10pm, 365 days a year.
Phone on 0800 51 11 11
Text on 07786 51 11 11
Email: talkzone@lancashire.gov.uk



If you are an adult or professional, call 0300 123 6720



For more information www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/neglect/



# **Lancashire Family Hubs**

For more information, scan the QR code or visit www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/family-hubs/





# Healthy Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

For more information, scan the QR code or visit https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-educationfamilies/school-holiday-activities/



FREE HEALTH EVENT FOR FAMILIES BRUNCH INCLUDED

# WORRIED ABOUT YOUR CHILDS HEALTH?

WANT TO START 2025 IN A POSITIVE WAY?

LOOKING FOR SOME ADVICE FROM EXPERTS?

PLEASE COME TO OUR FREE **EVENT** 

> DATE 18.01.2025



#### **EVENT TIME 9-12**

- + WORKSHOPS FOR
  PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF BABIES,
  TODDLERS, OLDER CHILDREN
  AND TEENAGERS

   TOPICS TO BE INCLUDED MENTAL
  - HEALTH, IMMUNISATIONS, FOOD & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



Fundraise for school in a way that does not cost you anything.

Easyfunding



We're now registered with Easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use Easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! All you need to do is sign up and remember to use Easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely FREE!

These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st-pauls-rawtenstall/?utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=pmc&utm\_content=email-1

# This week we have been learning...



#### **Brilliant Berries**

Berries have had a fabulous week, I can't believe we are at the end of this half term. As always, we are so proud of all the children and the work and determination they put into everything they do. Thank you also, for all your support this half term.

# **English**

We have come to the end of our story, Owl Babies. The children have LOVED it. They can now all recite the story; some know it word by word. We have enjoyed writing our own Owl Baby Story,

describing the characters and writing fact files all about Owls. The work the children have produced has been fabulous.

#### Maths

This week, we have been focusing on finding 1 more and 1 less together as a class in numbers up to 100. We have nearly mastered it, so please do continue to practise this at home. We have also been working in small groups for counting in 5s, the children are very good at counting in 5s and are nearly masters. Again, please continue to practise at home.

#### **Phonics**

Our sounds this week are, 'ar', 'or' and tricky words are, 'have' and 'one'. Help your children practise at home by writing the trick words at home and by having a go at their new sounds.

#### Afternoon

This week we have enjoyed PE and Forest School, in PE we have been playing the bean game and having a go at throwing and catching. In Forest School we have loved taking part in a scavenger hunt based on colours. The children have thoroughly enjoyed it all.

In DT, we have been looking at healthy fruit salad, the children have washed, chopped and made a delicious fruit salad. The children tried lots of different fruit and were very happy.

#### Forest School and PE kits

There have been a significant number of children who are not bringing the correct kit each week for PE and Forest School sessions. It is important that your child has the right kit in school on these days so they are able to participate fully in the lessons.

Our **PE days** for next half term will remain as **Monday (indoors)** 

Our next Forest School session is Wednesday 5th March

Have a lovely half term break, I hope it is full of adventures.

Mrs Taylor and Mrs Coleman

#### Dates for your diary

School breaks up for half term - Friday 14th February

Spring 2 term begins - Monday 24th February

Wear Blue for Refugees Day - Wednesday 26th February

World Book Day- Thursday 6th March

# Infant Easter Service - Thursday 3rd April at 9.30am

# **Amazing Acorns**



What a lovely end to another fabulous half term!

This week we have finished our text: Owl babies. We have been learning facts all about owls: what they eat and where they live.

We had a very special visit from Doctor Lucy who spoke to us all about keeping healthy. The children all received a lovely certificate and sticker. Ask your child to share what they have learnt.

In forest school, we had a scavenger hunt, looking for different coloured natural treasures.

We have sent all the children's PE and forest school kits home to have a little wash. Please can these returned on the first week back ready for our PE lesson on Monday with our sports coach?

If anybody has any toy animals that they would like to donate, they would be greatly appreciated in anticipation for our next topic: Dear Zoo.

Have a lovely half term,

Miss Bliss and the EYFS team.

Dates for your diary

School breaks up for half term - Friday 14th February

Spring 2 term begins - Monday 24th February

Wear Blue for Refugees Day - Wednesday 26th February. Please bring a pebble for this day ready for a craft activity.

Junior Easter Service- Thursday 3rd April at 10:30am

# PE days- Monday









# Awesome Ashes



# **Curriculum news**

Well done Ashes, we've made it to another half term after a busy and productive few weeks. I'm sure we'll enjoy returning to school after the break with lighter nights and hopefully some warmer and sunnier weather!

This week in English, we have been planning and writing our reports about the Fire of London. We remembered so much about the fire!

In Maths, children in Reception have been measuring longer and shorter using stick and measuring weights. Children in Year 1 have been learning to count in groups using problem solving. Try and see if your child can use and apply their counting in group skills 'There are 6 buses, each bus has 5 children... How many children altogether?'

In topic, we have been finishing our work all about the Fire of London and beginning to learn about London nowadays.

### Please keep your eyes peeled!

A child in Ashes has lost their new PE hoody. It is labelled with their name. Please could you check to see if it has made its way to the wrong home.

#### **Forest School and PE**

Our PE days for next half term will return to **Wednesday** both for indoor and outdoor sessions.

Our next Forest School session is Friday 28th February

# **Dates for your diary**

Spring 2 term begins - Monday 24th Feb

Wear Blue for Refugees Day - Wednesday 26th Feb. Please bring a pebble for this day ready for a craft activity.

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March

Infant Easter Service - Thursday 3rd April at 9.30am

Have a lovely half term!

Miss Fielding



1 - We have loved our vet role play area.



2 - We have been learning about the countries around the world and locating capital cities.



**Super Sycamores** 



In English, we have finished our writing around the book Where the Wild Things are by creating our own Wild Things and writing a character description. The children had a range of Wild Things from cute, friendly ones to scary, foolish ones. The vocabulary the children used was fabulous and the children have loved using the word of the week to help with their writing.

In Maths we have started learning to double up to double ten and also practising our number bonds to ten (9+1, 8+2 etc). Please practise both of these skills at home to support your child's Maths learning.

In Geography we have been learning about Trinidad and the children have made links to our previous history topic of Learie Constantine. We have been learning about where Trinidad is in the world in relation to the equator, what geographical features are on the island and how life compares to life in the UK, including the weather.

**PE** is unchanged for the next half term and remains on **Thursday**.

### Dates for your diary

Spring 2 term begins - Monday 24th Feb

#### Forest school - Tuesday 25th Feb

Wear Blue for Refugees Day - Wednesday 26th Feb

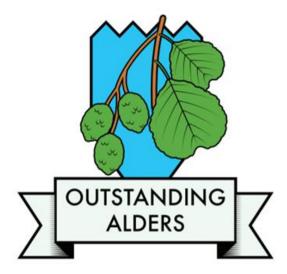
World Book Day - Thursday 6th March

Infant Easter Service - Thursday 3rd April at 9.30am

#### Class reminders -

- Spellings every Friday (the children are not tested on the spellings. They link to the spellings we have been learning and practising in class).
- Reading please read with your child each day and bring their book into school each day too
- PE every Thursday please send your child's kit on the day.

# **Outstanding Alders**



I cannot believe that we have finished another half term. The children have worked so hard and they definitely deserve a break, Mrs Atherton does too.

#### Curriculum news

In English we have started our narrative unit, we are working towards writing our own version of 'The Highway Rat'. We have been learning and exploring tricky vocabulary such as bellowed, swaggered and feasting.

In Maths we have been working on subtraction, we started subtracting less than ten and then more than ten. We tried hard to use all of our knowledge on addition and subtraction to solve some word problems.

In science we learnt about why exercise is important and what effects it has on our body. We completed an investigation doing different exercises and had to observe the changes to our bodies.

#### **Forest School and PE**

Our **PE days** for next half term will be **Tuesday and Wednesda**y. Please make sure your child has their kit in school on the first Monday back.

Our next Forest School session is Thursday 27th February.

# Dates for your diary

Spring 2 term begins - Monday 24th Feb

Wear Blue for Refugees Day - Wednesday 26th Feb

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March

Infant Easter Service - Thursday 3rd April at 9.30am

Have a lovely break,

Miss Cavaney.

**Enchanted Elms** 



Wow what an amazing end to a half term. The children have wrote their own setting descriptions using a variety of skills which we have been learning over the last six weeks (prepositions, similes and adverbs). They have blown my socks off with how amazing they are.

In maths we have been dividing using number lines and problem solving related to division.

In our topic learning, we have finished the Stone Age to Iron Age. The children have been really engrossed in this topic, and it's been lovely to see children doing extra work at home related to the stone age (creating fact files, bringing in artefacts). We will be learning about the Romans next half term.

In R.E we have finished our unit of Islam and created a tree of guidance that people should live by which is displayed in our classroom.

#### **PE Kits**

There have been a significant number of children who are not bringing the correct kit each week for PE. It is important that your child has the right kit in school on these days so they are able to participate fully in the lessons.

A reminder that our PE days this half term are Tuesday (outdoor) and Wednesday (indoor).

#### Forest School Dates for after half term

Our next Forest School session is **Monday 24th February 2025, Monday 10th March 2025 and Monday 24th March 2025** 

# Dates for your diary

Spring 2 term begins - Monday 24th February 2025

Wear Blue for Refugees Day - Wednesday 26th February 2025

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March 2025

Junior Easter Service - Thursday 3rd April 2025 at 10.30am

Hope you all have a wonderful half term and I am looking forward to hearing all about your adventures.

#### **Class reminders**

- Reading diaries Every day
- New weekly spellings given Each Friday
- Outdoor PE (weather permitting) Tuesday
- Indoor PE Wednesday

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Cowgill

# Marvellous Maples



Maples have had a great week and have absolutely worked their socks off. We have been looking at elements we need to include to write a fantastic setting description. We decided that we would need to include all the senses, noun phrases, prepositions and similes. The children did a fantastic job and really thought about the reader and how to build that picture for them.

Next half term we will be focussing our English lessons around the book 'The boy who grew Dragons' by Andy Shepherd. It would be helpful if you could purchase one for your child that they can use in the lessons. They are available to purchase on Amazon for around £6 if this is possible.

In maths, the children have been working on division strategies. We have looked at using the part-whole model and repeated subtraction and also using a number line. The children have also become really good at halving numbers. We have worked on using strategies to halve odd numbers- they have grasped this concept brilliantly.

#### Homework

As we know the children are expected to read each night and their diary signed at least three times per week. Unfortunately, there are many children in Maples that are not reading at all. I cannot stress enough the importance of reading. It helps in so many areas of the curriculum but also in helping children learn about the world, different cultures and a range of topics. Please make this a priority and set some time aside for your child to read each night- they'll thank you for it when they're older.

Please can you ensure your child is practising their times tables daily. This could be chanting them in the car or asking quick-fire questions while putting their coat and shoes on as well as practising on TTRS, when possible. It is such a good skill to have and will help them enormously in all areas of maths.

Next half term out PE days are Tuesday (outdoor) and Friday (indoor). Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school (white t-shirt and blue/black shorts or joggers for outdoor PE).

Our next forest session is on Thursday 6th March.

# Dates for your diary

Spring 2 term begins - Monday 24th Feb

Wear Blue for Refugees Day - Wednesday 26th Feb

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March

Junior Easter Service - Thursday 3rd April at 10.30am

Just a reminder that I am always happy to discuss any concerns or queries you may have. Please catch me at the door or let the office know and they will pass on the message.

Thank you for your understanding while I have been off.

Have a great half term.

Miss Yates

#### **Class Reminders**

- Outdoor PE- Tuesday (weather permitting)
- Indoor PE- Friday
- Forest school- Every other Thursday PM

Have a great weekend.

Miss Yates

# **Dazzling Elders**



What a busy half term! In Maths this week Mr Adam's group have been using written methods for multiplication while the Year Fives have been finding equivalent fractions and comparing fractions. Please keep helping your child practise their times tables daily. This could be chanting them in the car or asking quick-fire questions as well as practising on TTRS, when possible. This half term, the children have won the award for the most consistent class practising their times tables at home, so thank you for all your support in this. A good knowledge of your times tables is such an essential skill to develop.

This week in English the children have been learning to write Cinquian poems, creating similes and written a descriptive piece about Ahmet the central character in Boy at the Back of the Class. The children have planned and carried out an experiment in Science making and testing ear defenders, to discover what materials are good sound insulators.

Next half term Indoor PE will be on Monday and Outdoor PE will be on Friday.

I hope you have a lovely half term and I will see you back on Monday 24th February.

Mrs Nolan

Dates for your diary

Spring 2 term begins - Monday 24th Feb

Forest school -Wednesday 26th Feb

Wear Blue for Refugees Day - Wednesday 26th Feb voluntary donations can be made on ParentPay.

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March

Junior Easter Service - Thursday 3rd April at 10.30am

Wonderful Willows



We have had a very busy half term, filled with so much learning. Every child has achieved something new over the past six weeks and we are very proud of them all!

## **English**

This week there has been a buzz in the classroom as we built up to our independent text. We have spent weeks reading and embracing the Street Child. We have used drama techniques to increase our empathy towards the Victorian children in the workhouses, our final product was to write a diary entry as if we were a child in the workhouse. The level of writing is brilliant. We have enhanced our writing style by including simile and -ing starters and we have helped create a vivid picture by using expanded noun phrases. Well done Willows.

#### **Maths**

It has been great to complete our Maths unit this week, where it felt like the topic was a little but less pressure. We have been looking at symmetry. We had to work accurately to ensure we replicated the tricky shapes correctly, especially when the shape intersected the reflection line. What a hardworking class they have been.

## Science

This week's lesson was very informative as we went back over three million years to research the Australopithecus and followed through the years to the Homo Habilis, Homo Erectus, Homo Neanderthalensis right the way through to the Homo Sapien. We were bombarded by facts, figures and dates but all managed to create a fantastic timeline looking at how their skills, diet and physical appearance changed over the years.

We hope you have a fabulous half term and we will see you back on Monday 24th February.  $\bigcirc$ 



PE is unchanged for the next half term and remains on a Wednesday (Indoor) with Swimming continuing on a Monday.

#### Dates for your diary

Spring 2 term begins - Monday 24th Feb

# Forest school - Friday 7th March

Wear Blue for Refugees Day - Wednesday 26th Feb - Donations are on ParentPay

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March

Junior Easter Service - Thursday 3rd April at 10.30am

#### **Class reminders**

- Reading diaries at least three reads a week Checked each Friday
- New weekly spellings given Each Wednesday
- Indoor PE Wednesday Please ensure kits are in school.
- Swimming Monday Please ensure all girls and pupils with longer hair have swimming hats.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Cooper and Mrs Todd



# **Curriculum news**

We have reached the end of another busy half term and what a week it has been! I think we are all definitely ready for a holiday.

Our writing unit in English has come to an end and the children have produced some fantastic non-chronological reports, not only about the yellow-spotted lizard but also about a creature of their own choosing. They have worked carefully on editing their writing and using punctuation and spelling reminders to improve their writing further.

In maths, we have been using co-ordinate axes to work out missing vertices of points, reflecting shapes and translating them too. Next half term, our focus will move back to calculating using the four operations and fractions.

To support your child further in their learning, please encourage them to practise their weekly spellings and times tables each day. This will also be of great benefit when your child completes their end of key stage two assessments in May.

#### Forest School and PE kits

There have been a significant number of children who are not bringing the correct kit each week for PE and Forest School sessions. It is important that your child has the right kit in school on these days so they are able to participate fully in the lessons.

Our PE days for next half term will remain as Monday (outdoor) and Thursday (indoor).

Our next Forest School session is Tuesday 4th March

# Dates for your diary

Spring 2 term begins - Monday 24th Feb

Wear Blue for Refugees Day - Wednesday 26th Feb

World Book Day - Thursday 6th March

Junior Easter Service - Thursday 3rd April at 10.30am

Have a lovely half term break

Mrs Lee

#### **Class reminders**

- Reading diaries Each Friday
- New weekly spellings given Each Friday
- Indoor PE Thursday Please ensure kits are in school
- Outdoor PE (weather permitting) Monday

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Lee



Have your circumstances changed? Apply for free school meals.



For any parents/carers, **whose circumstances have changed** and think their child(ren) may be entitled to Free School Meals, please can an application form be completed. Parents can apply electronically via the link below:

 $\underline{https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=3}$ 

Registering for the Free School Meal service also means the school will receive additional funding for your child, which is called Pupil Premium.

Please note that younger siblings of pupils who are already entitled will not automatically qualify for Free School Meals. If a family's circumstances have changed and cease to be entitled to qualifying benefits, the elder children will be protected but any new children will not qualify. This is why Pupil Access Team require applications completing so they can properly assess new sibling's entitlement.

Reflective Friday



Hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs Charlesworth

